

Serial No. 09/054,864
Reply Filed: February 14, 2005

REMARKS

In reply to the Office Action mailed December 5, 2003, and in view of the following remarks, reconsideration is requested. Claims 5 and 19-48 remain in the application of which claims 5, 24, 30, 36, 42 and 43 are independent.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 5, 21, 23, 24, 27, 29, 30, 33, 35, 36, 39 and 41-44, of which claims 5, 24, 30, 36, 42 and 43 are independent, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 in view of U.S. Patent 5,799,150 ("Hamilton") and U.S. Patent 6,233,393 ("Yanagihara"). Claims 19, 20, 22, 25-26, 28, 31-32, 34, 37-38, 40 and 45-48, all of which are dependent claims, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 in view of Hamilton, Yanagihara and U.S. Patent 5,241,382 ("Paik"). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The Office Action admits that Hamilton does not teach the claimed "high speed serial bus using frame by frame flow control," recited in independent claims 5, 24, 30, 36 and 42. Note that the claims recite this frame by frame flow control by further reciting that a request packet indicates a request "to transfer video data defining a video frame" and sending a plurality of data packets including "the video data defining the requested video frame."

The Office Action asserts that "[i]nherently [the] IEEE-1394 standard uses frame-by-frame flow control for transmitting video data," citing Yanagihara¹ at col. 6, lines 35-65. This understanding of Yanagihara and IEEE-1394 is incorrect. Nothing in the portion of Yanagihara cited by the Examiner describes a frame-by-frame flow control of video of IEEE-1394. In fact, Yanagihara states that video data is sent "in an isochronous manner according to an IEEE-1394 standard." *Yanagihara*, col. 6, lines 41-42. Isochronous transmissions in the IEEE-1394 specification have no flow control.

Accordingly, the independent claims 5, 24, 30, 36, 42 and 43 are distinguishing over the proposed combination of Hamilton and Yanagihara. The remaining claims 19-23, 25-29, 31-35, 37-41 and 44-48 are dependent claims and thus are distinguishing for at least the same reasons.

¹ The Office Action refers to Yanagihara as a "newly discovered reference". Yanagihara was cited in the Office Action mailed May 10, 2002. The Yanagihara reference (U.S. Patent 6,211,800) cited on the PTO-892 form accompanying this Office Action appears to be newly cited, but was not referred to in this Office Action.

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Independent claim 42 also is distinguishing over Hamilton and Yanagihara because neither Hamilton nor Yanagihara teaches the claimed "boundary signal." This limitation is not addressed in the rejection of claim 42 on pages 3 and 4 of the Office Action. Instead, in connection with the rejection of dependent claims 22, 28, 34 and 40 (which recites a "boundary signal indicating whether the data packet includes a last component of the video data of the requested frame"), the Office Action states that neither Hamilton nor Yanagihara teaches this limitation, and relies instead on Paik.

The claim language of a "boundary signal" does not read on Paik (Fig. 2 and 3; Col. 8, lines 43-56). The plain language of the claim makes it clear that the boundary signal in a data packet indicates whether that data packet includes the last component of the requested video frame. The term "component" is defined at page 7, lines 9-10 of the present application: "A component is a portion of the data being transferred, such as a luminance component of a pixel of video data." In the portion of Paik cited in the Office Action, no such "boundary signal" is provided.

Accordingly, independent claim 42 and dependent claims 22, 28, 24 and 40 are patentable over Hamilton, Yanagihara and Paik.

Regarding dependent claims 19, 20, 25, 26, 31, 32, 37, 38 and 45-48, the portions of Paik cited in the Office Action fail to teach anything about the precision (i.e., the number of bits used to represent) of a component being greater than a byte as claimed. For example, Paik does not describe handling video in which components are represented, for example, by 10-bits or 12-bits. (Nonetheless, the Applicant would like the Examiner to consider U.S. Patent 6,239,815 ("Frink"), previously cited in an Information Disclosure Statement concerning this subject matter.)

Accordingly, the rejection of these dependent claims in view of Hamilton, Yanagihara and Paik is traversed.

Regarding dependent claim 44, the Office Action relies on a description of a packet sent by a transmission source upon that source obtaining bus control under an arbitration sequence under IEEE-1394. In contrast, claim 44 recites that request packets from the recipient of transmitted data includes a packet rate field. Note that in claim 43, these request packets are sent to indicate that the recipient is capable of receiving video data. Thus, Yanagihara (or IEEE-1394) fails to teach the limitations of claim 44, and the rejection is traversed.

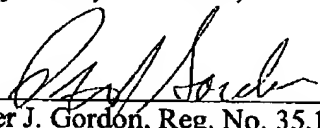
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application should now be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after this reply, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicants hereby request any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, please charge any fee to **Deposit Account No. 50-0876**.

Respectfully submitted,

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